

## BOOK REVIEW

**CASSINI on Compositae II.** Collected from the *Bulletin des Sciences par la Société Philomatique de Paris*. Arranged with a brief introduction and an index by: R. M. KING, P. C. JANASKE, and D. B. LELLINGER. *Monographs in Systematic Botany from the Missouri Botanical Garden*. Vol. 54: xii, 1—189. 1995. ISSN 0161-1542. ISBN 0-915279-31-2. \$20.00 U.S., \$22.00 non-U.S.

**CASSINI on Compositae III.** Collected from the *Journal de Physique, de Chimie, d'Histoire Naturelle et des Arts* and from the *Annales des Sciences Naturelles*. Arranged with a brief introduction and an index by: R. M. KING, P. C. JANASKE, and D. B. LELLINGER. *Monographs in Systematic Botany from the Missouri Botanical Garden*. Vol. 55: viii, 1—507. 1995. ISSN 0161-1542. ISBN 0-915279-32-0. \$40.00 U.S., \$43.00 non-U.S.

Two additional sets of facsimile reproductions of HENRI CASSINI (1781-1832) articles have been produced in paperback with brief introductions, completing the 'CASSINI on Compositae' series. ROBERT M. KING, PAUL C. JANASKE, and DAVID B. LELLINGER have done a favor to the botanical public by collecting the remaining indexed works of CASSINI and making them readily available in 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III. These volumes contain the protean work of CASSINI on the largest dicot family and are thus essential references for both floristicians and synantherologists.

This series of facsimile reproductions was begun by KING and H. W. DAWSON, who in 1975 produced 'CASSINI on Compositae' [I], Parts 1-3 by Oriole Editions. These parts contain facsimile reproductions of CASSINI's truly monumental work on Compositae that appeared in the *Dictionnaire des Sciences Naturelles* between 1816—1830. The new parts are II, including articles from *Bulletin des Sciences par la Société Philomatique de Paris* 1812—1821, and III, including articles from *Journal de Physique, de Chimie, d'Histoire Naturelle et des Arts* 1813—1823 and from *Annales des Sciences Naturelles* 1827—1831. The simple yet effective arrangement of the newer 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III nearly parallels that of the original series.

'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III each begins with a Table of Contents and a brief Introduction (seven paragraphs in II and three paragraphs in III) that refers the reader to the thorough introduction in 'CASSINI on Compositae' [I] for details on CASSINI's life and importance. The bulk of texts are the facsimile reproductions of CASSINI's work on Compositae published between 1812—1831 in *Bulletin des Sciences par la Société Philomatique de Paris*, *Journal de Physique, de Chimie, d'Histoire Naturelle et des Arts*, and *Annales des*

*Sciences Naturelles*. Pages are reproduced without alteration in III, and are reproduced with altered page breaks, but with original pagination marked in the margins in II. The latter form follows the form seen in the Oriole Editions 'CASSINI on Compositae' [I]. We did stumble across a minor mistake in the marginal index in 'CASSINI on Compositae' II, p. 54. The first paragraph and part of the second were originally published in *Bulletin des Sciences par la Société Philomatique de Paris* 1818: 31. 1818, not on "1818: 30. 1818" as given in the new reproductions. Lastly, 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III each concludes with an index to genera and species. The indices are quite naturally very useful, and it should be noted that the format of the index of the 'CASSINI on Compositae' series calls for the epithet to be preceded by the abbreviation of the genus, making this truly an index to binomials, not one merely to epithets.

HENRI CASSINI is without doubt the most influential student of Compositae known. Our current system of tribal classification of Compositae was originally devised by CASSINI, and the traditionally recognized tribes Anthemideae, Arctoteae, Astereae, Calenduleae, Cardueae, Echinopeae, Eupatorieae, Heliantheae, Inuleae, Lactuceae, Mutisieae, Senecioneae, Tageteae, and Veronieae were all originally described and circumscribed by him. CASSINI was a contemporary of DE CANDOLLE and LESSING, and though the latter authors failed to follow the tribal system of CASSINI, they perpetuated the use of style and anther base characters from which BENTHAM recreated CASSINI's tribal concepts. The CASSINI tribal system is largely still in use today, having completely withstood the test of time. CASSINI's use of microcharacters in tribal and generic taxonomy preceded by more than a century today's acceptance of microcharacters as important in classification schemes. It is because of CASSINI [*Bull. Sci. Soc. Philom., Paris* 1819: 63—64. 1819 and *J. Phys. Chim. Hist. Nat. Arts* 89: 5—33. 1819 (the latter is listed in the Table of Contents in III as published in 1718)] that we take the folio edition of HUMBOLDT et al.'s *Nova genera et species plantarum* vol. 4 (1818) as earlier than the quarto edition of vol. 4 (1820), in spite of all new Compositae therein listed in *Index kewensis* using the pagination of the quarto edition.

It should be noted that the writings of CASSINI were in easily readable French. However, reading will be aided by learning a few of the technical terms used by CASSINI such as 'calathide' (capitulum), 'pericline' (involucre or phyllaries), 'cline' (receptacle), 'ovaire' (achene, or more precisely cypsela), and 'aigrette' (pappus). The technical writing needs little translation, and the work includes historical information in the field and discussions, in addition to innumerable original descriptions of CASSINI's tribes, genera, subgenera, and species. The articles include the survey of characters, including microcharacters, that were the basis of the tribes and other taxonomic categories of

CASSINI. It is often necessary to see what characteristics were used by CASSINI for his taxa, what exact level taxa were recognized at, and when, and precisely what species were included.

The series 'CASSINI on Compositae' was seemingly compiled using the listing of CASSINI papers in *Catalogue of Scientific Papers* of the Royal Society of London (1867). Consequentially, we have as lagniappe in 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III papers by CASSINI on a variety of both dicots (including Boopidaceae CASS., now a synonym of Calyceraceae R.BR. ex RICH.) and monocots, as well as a few on cryptogams! On the down side of this, however, CASSINI's annotated translation (*J. Phys.* 86: 317-339, 396—417. 1818 and 87: 5—30, 95—115. 1818) of ROBERT BROWN's 'Observation on Compositae' (*Trans. Linn. Soc. London* 12: 76—142. 1817) is not reproduced here. This is a byproduct of the Frenchman CASSINI's annotated translation (including his "Notes du Traducteur") having been indexed by the Royal Society of London only under the Englishman BROWN. Consequently, not quite all CASSINI publications on Compositae are contained in the 'CASSINI on Compositae' series.

Along with 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III, the original Oriole Editions reprint of CASSINI articles from the *Dictionnaire des Sciences Naturelles* may be obtained from the Missouri Botanical Garden. The latter was previously sold elsewhere, but the remaining stock has been obtained by the Missouri Botanical Garden. The three parts of the original volume are listed in the recent Missouri Botanical Garden publications catalogue as follows:

CASSINI on Compositae I. 1975. Oriole Editions. ISBN 0-88211-080-2. 3 volumes [parts], 1963 pp. + index, hardbound. Available as a set for \$35.00 U.S., \$39.00 non-U.S. Individual volumes [parts] are \$20.00 U.S., \$22.00 non-U.S. each.

The catalogue includes a special offer to buy the full set of 'CASSINI on Compositae' [I] (3 parts), and 'CASSINI on Compositae' II and III for \$80.00 U.S., \$89.00 non-U.S. Available from the Missouri Botanical Garden, Department Eleven, P.O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299, U.S.A. Telephone: (+1) 314-577-9534, Fax: (+1) 314-577-9594, E-mail: dept11@mobot.org, Web: <http://www.mobot.org>.

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